

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 03824 241649Z

ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: OCON, UNIDO

SUBJECT: UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD, TWELFTH

- SESSION, (IDB-XII); AGENDA ITEM 9, INTEGRATION
- OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

1. ID/B/202 IS THE THIRD ANNUAL REPORT BY THE EX-DIR ON IMPLEMENTATION OF IDB RES.44 (IX) ON INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. IT REPORTS THAT PROGRESS CONTINUES TO BE SLOW AND CAN ONLY BE MADE ON THE LONG-TERM, PARTICULARLY BY BRINGING ABOUT A CHANGE IN THE PREVAILING ATTITUDE IN PROJECT FORMULATION -- AN EFFORT SLOWED BY THE "DIVERSITY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS OPERATING IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD" AND BY THE ALLOCATING OF LIMITED BUDGETARY AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO OTHER PRIORITY AREAS.

2. INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT: THIS SECTION OF DOCUMENT IDENTIFIES VARIOUS SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO PROMOTE OBJECTIVE. SPECIAL ATTENTION PAID TO INCREASING THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN UNIDO - SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS DID NOT RESULT IN ANY SUBSTANTIVE IN-

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 03824 241649Z

CREASE IN NUMBERS DUE TO LOW NUMBER OF WOMEN EMPLOYED IN HIGHER TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL POSITIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THUS ELIGIBLE FOR UNIDO TRAINING. THE NUMBER NOMINATED BY GOVERNMENTS WAS ONLY 5-6. HOWEVER, PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN ACCEPTED WAS HIGHER: OF 1,363 TRAINEE FELLOWS, 119 (OR 8.7) WERE WOMEN.

3. UNIDO PLANS TO HOLD IN MID-1978 A MEETING OF HIGH-LEVEL WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN PREPARATION FOR A POLICY/TECHNICAL MEETING ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

4. EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN BY UNIDO: "NO DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGHS CAN BE EXPECTED AND NONE ARE PRETENDED."

-- OF THE FOUR GENERAL SERVICE STAFF PROMOTED TO PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY IN 1977, THREE WERE WOMEN.

-- THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STAFF TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT (ESTABLISHED IN 1977) WAS REQUESTED TO GIVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT OF FEMALE STAFF MEMBERS.

-- THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE SECRETARIAT ISSUED ITS FIRST REPORT ON WOMEN IN THE PROFESSIONAL RANKS IN DECEMBER 1976 AND IS PREPARING ITS SECOND REPORT ON WOMEN IN THE GENERAL SERVICES CATEGORY.

-- THOUGH NO QUALIFIED WOMAN INTERESTED IN AN ASSIGNMENT AS A SIDFA WAS LOCATED, 5 OF THE 14 JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS RECRUITED IN NOVEMBER 1977 (FOR A TOTAL OF 6 OUT OF 29) WERE WOMEN.

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 03824 241649Z

5. MISSION SUGGESTS U.S.DEL:

-- EXPRESS APPRECIATION AT FRANKNESS OF REPORT;

-- DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE SLOW PROGRESS;

-- AND PLEDGE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF APPROPRIATE ACTION BY UNIDO AND GOVERNMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THESE OBJECTIVES. LEARY

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